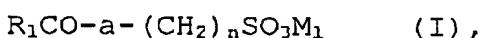


ART 34 AMDT**10/502356**
JT12 Rec'd PCT/PTO 23 JUL 2004

Amended Claims filed on May 21, 2003 under Article 19 of PCT

1. (Amended) A hair dye composition comprising a component (A), which is a long-chain acyl sulfonic acid salt anionic surfactant represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R_1CO- represents a saturated or unsaturated fatty acid residue (acyl group) having an average carbon atom number of 10 to 22; a represents $-O-$ or $-NR-$, wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C3 alkyl group; M_1 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal, an ammonium, or an organic amine; and n represents an integer of 1 to 3, in an amount of 0.1 to 10.0 wt.%; a component (B), which is an aliphatic alcohol, in an amount of 0.25 to 25.0 wt.%; a component (C), which is an acid dye and/or a natural dyestuff, and a component (D), which is an emulsion of non-volatile silicone.

2. (Amended) The hair dye composition as recited in claim 1, further comprising benzyl alcohol and wherein the ratio by weight of the component (A) to the component (B) is 1 : 2.5 to 1 : 50.

3. The hair dye composition as recited in claim 1, wherein the component (C) is contained in an amount of 0.001 to 2.0 wt.%.

4. The hair dye composition as recited in claim 1, wherein the pH of the composition is 1.5 to 4.5.